

## EJ IWG Public Participation (PP) Committee Meeting

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**NOTES from February 22, 2017, meeting are in red**

**Meeting Location:** 601 D St. NW (DOJ's Patrick Henry Bldg.) Room 6502

**Teleconference:** Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

**MEETING GOALS:** develop implementation plan to accomplish Committee's FY2017 goals

### AGENDA

1:00 pm Welcome

**Laura, Marsh, Kim, Cynthia, and Jessica in person and Amy by phone**

1:05 pm **Review Role** of Public Participation Committee (see page 3)

- We need to develop an "**elevator pitch**" for the EJ IWG. What are the 3 or 4 things EJ IWG is doing around the "3 A's" – specific things so everyone knows what to tell others (NEJAC public, other agencies) about EJ IWG? How are we making ourselves (EJIWG) accessible? → The Federal partners are working collaboratively in [INSERT #] communities addressing these [INSERT #] areas/types of concern and making [INSERT #] connections. And in 2018 we will expand that to [INSERT #] communities.
- Another selling point could be that the EJ IWG put on [INSERT #] presentations at [INSERT #] conferences across the country (where community engagement occurred).
- Then we also need to identify the barriers to accomplish this.

1:15 pm **Review Goals** of Public Participation Committee (see page 2 for list of goals).

- How do we address issues without a regional infrastructure?
- How does the Public Participation Committee address questions?
- Make sure EJ IWG web items are mobile accessible

1:25 pm **Develop Implementation Plan** to reach goals. For each goal:

- **WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE AT END OF FY2017?**
- **WHAT IS OUR TIMING TO REACH SUCCESS?**
- **WHAT SPECIFIC TASKS/STEPS WILL GET US THERE (& TIMING)?**

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During this meeting Committee decided to focus on Goal #1 (Prioritize in-person outreach efforts through community visits and public dialogue with the EJ IWG ) -

- What does success look like?
- We need to do some research
- Reach out through organizations
- Local/community based organizations for local connections
- Meet the people where they are
- Go into the communities (youth centers, churches, etc.)
- You need to know what the communities want
- Who did we work with in 2016? Ask the EJ IWG committees and EJ IWG as a whole. Also ask - What worked and what didn't work?
- Contact Mustafa to get benefit of the feedback he has heard from communities
- What are the barriers/blockers to advancing?
- How do you gather info from communities?
- Where EJ IWG members attend meetings that are on our calendar, those members should serve as a conduit to bring back to the EJ IWG issues communities.
- PP Committee efforts should help enhance federal coordination that is already being done by EJ IWG committees
- Reach out to the RIWG's (Regions 2 and 4) and the other EJ IWG committees.
- See what communities, RIWGs, Rural Committee, Goods Movement Committee, Title VI Committee, and Native American/Indigenous Peoples Committee are working with and what issues they are working on:
  - What partners/organizations are they working with (regionals, locals)
  - Find the number of federal partners in these areas
  - What public engagement have they done? What are the barriers and determine how PP Committee can help address needs.
  - Find a model that works
  - Connect people with similar issues
- Community of Practice – What can be scaled as we see patterns? How do you replicate successful solutions to common issues?
- Other organizations and efforts to tap into: Robert Garcia – City Project – 100 Coalition (Kim will send information to us); EPA's 100 overburdened communities (see EJ 2020
- **Cynthia and Marsha will work on draft of what the informational “ask is” from the RIWG's and other committees and share draft with PP committee.**

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2:15 pm      ***Wrap up / Next Steps*** not captured above

Send out request to committees regarding planned activities/events when their FY 2017 goals are finalize.

Put a calendar on PP Committee's Max.gov workspace and track where EJ IWG members are attending and speaking/participating in presentations.

Post English version of EJ IWG Factsheet (with typo corrected) on Max.gov

**Next meeting is ~~March-8<sup>th</sup>~~ cancelled because of the NEJC**

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As a reminder, here is the Committee's *internal* list of FY 2017 goals:

1. Implement strategy(ies) to address the "**Digital Divide**"<sup>1</sup>
2. Focus on **prioritizing in-person outreach efforts through** community visits and public dialogue sessions that solicit feedback from residents directly experiencing environmental impacts. (see Framework FY2016 priorities)
3. Enhance EJ IWG **Website Presence** & highlight our tagline "Accessible/Aware/Accountable"  
(<https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg>)  
Articles, blog posts,
4. Next Step from EJ IWG Principals' meeting - **Support the establishment of community revitalization advisory boards**  
**Will revisit at a later date**
5. Review EPA's National EJ Advisory Council meeting notes for relevant feedback/recommendations for PP Committee

Here are the FY 2017 goals as listed in the draft **FY 2016 EJ IWG Accomplishments Report** that will be made public:

1. Prioritize in-person outreach efforts through community visits and public dialogue with the EJ IWG
2. Enhance EJ IWG's Web Presence
3. Implement additional strategies to help bridge "digital divide"
4. Identify, or develop where necessary, additional communication tools (such as blogs, agency newsletters, talking points, etc.)

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<sup>1</sup> NOTES FROM PRIOR MEETING RE: **DIGITAL DIVIDE** →

- 1) **Diversify** – overarching theme - we need to be diverse in our efforts and not rely on just on means of reaching communities
- 2) **Minority Radio Stations** – in addition to Black syndicated radio stations reach out to newspapers, etc; also need to reach Hispanic radio stations, etc
- 3) **Direct outreach to community leaders** –
- 4) **Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute** and other contacts in Hispanic community
- 5) **Social media & "Influencers"** – "Influencers" or "amplifiers") are people with established/trusted social media presence that have significant following already (ie. 70,000 people). When you partner with them, they can help you reach folks on Twitter, Facebook, etc.
- 6) **Schools** – do not forget to reach out to schools
- 7) **Native American / Indigenous Peoples** – Outreach is government-to-government, but for EJ it is also grassroots. We need to be sensitive about how this is done. We need to connect with the EJ IWG NA/IP committee to make sure we are incorporating the diverse means of communication that will be most effective. We want to be aware of existing contacts – for example, the White House has Tribal Nations contacts because of conferences that have been held.

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### **Team Members**

- Marsha Minter (EPA/Co-chair)
- Kevin Olp (EPA)
- Laura Godfrey (GSA)
- Christy Jackiewicz (GSA) – ad hoc / as relevant issues arise
- Bianca Norman (GSA) – ad hoc / as relevant issues arise
- Amy Vance (DHS)
- Kim Lambert (DOI)
- Lauren Meredith (DOI/USBR)
- Cynthia Ferguson (DOJ/Co-chair)

### **Committee Purpose**

"This committee will develop listening sessions and other similar opportunities for the Interagency Working Group, federally recognized tribes, and other members of the public. It will propose venues and agendas, and facilitate participation by Federal agencies and members of the public. The committee will also help coordinate responses to public input." EJ IWG MOU Charter (Nov. 18, 2014), p. 3; *see also* Executive Order No. 12898 (Feb. 11, 1994), Section 5-5.

### **Suggested Committee Permanent Responsibilities/Functions**

- (1) Keep EJ IWG fact sheet and web page current
- (2) Make EJ IWG banner pop-up/table cloth (or other materials) and ensure available for public events
- (3) Request articles and/or ideas for EJ blog posts (**Quarterly**)
- (4) **Schedule and manage/lead (?) quarterly public conference calls**
- (5) Create a template for other EJ IWG committees to request our services/blog (always make a request at monthly EJ IWG meetings)
- (6) Facilitate translation of EJ IWG documents
- (7) Develop consistent engagement process for the public with the EJ IWG
- (8) Other activities ( Newsletter/Social Media/Press Releases/ NEJC Conference)

### **Meeting Schedule**

The EJ IWG Public Participation Committee **meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 1:00pm.**